

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BUENOS 09040 131737Z

43

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-12 L-03 PA-02 SCA-01 H-01

PPTE-00 /030 W

----- 122969

P 131435Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4647

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 9040

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, AR (COOPER, JOHN).

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE

INVESTIGATION INTO CAUSE OF DEATH.

REF: BUENOS AIRES 8822, SUBSEQUENT AND PRIOR TRAFFIC.

1. USIS REPRESENTATIVE IN MENDOZA REPORTS THAT JUDGE THERE WHO CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION INTO CAUSE OF DEATH OF JOHN COOPER NOT SATISFIED THAT DEATH WAS ACCIDENTAL. IN INFORMAL CONVERSATION JUDGE TOLD USIS REPRESENTATIVE THERE MANY UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS WHICH HE WISHES CLARIFY BEFORE REACHING DECISION ON OFFICIAL CAUSE OF DEATH. JUDGE NOT SATISFIED WITH ROLE PLAYED BY ALFONSO ATTEMPTING RECOVER BODIES OR IN EVENTS INCLUDING PRESS CONFERENCES INVOLVED WITH RECENT ASCENT TO RECOVER BODY.

2. JUDGE SAID (AGAIN INFORMALLY) TO USIS REPRESENTATIVE THAT HE THINKS IT POSSIBLE THAT IT NOT ICE AXE BUT IRON STAKE (WHICH USED IN CLIMBING ICE WALL) THAT WAS CAUSE OF DEATH.

3. USIS REPRESENTATIVE IN MENDOZA IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH JUDGE AND COURTS REGARDING THIS ISSUE AND WILL ADVISE EMBASSY IMMEDIATELY WHEN MORE NEWS AVAILABLE. JUDGE WILL NOT RELEASE AUTOPSY REPORT UNTIL HIS INVESTIGATION CONCLUDED.

4. LOCAL FIRM FUNERAL HOME IN PROCESS OBTAINING NECESSARY LOCAL DOCUMENTATION FOR SHIPMENT OF REMAINS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WILL ADVISE DEPT. BY IMMEDIATE CABLE WHEN SHIPMENT DATE KNOWN.

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KREBS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BUENOS09040
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731227/aaaaatyz.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SCSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BUENOS AIRES 8822, SUBSEQUENT AND PR, IOR TRAFFIC.
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Nov-2001 by williad>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARGENTINE INVESTIGATION INTO CAUSE OF DEATH.
TAGS: CDES, AR, (COOPER, JOHN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005